

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant: Senate Transportation March 20, 2024

Jane Lazorchak, Climate Action Office Manager



Outline

- Overview of Climate Pollution Reduction Grant
- Technical Analysis Funding
- Alignment with Climate Action Plan Addendum
- Study Proposed with ANR, VTrans, and the Treasurer's Office



What is the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant?

- One-time, competitive process for \$4.6 billion in federal Inflation Reduction Act funds
 - Vermont likely to apply for ~\$90 million
- Eligible actions must show a measurable reduction in climate pollution
- Actions solely focused on adaptation and resilience (preparing for the harmful effects of climate change) are not eligible
- Many actions have co-benefits



A Comprehensive
Approach to
Addressing
Climate Change

Capture &

Store Carbon





Climate Pollution Reduction Grant

July 1, 2023

Climate Action
 Office awarded
 \$3 million
 dollar planning
 grant

March 1, 2024

 Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) due – first deliverable of the Planning Grant

April 1, 2024

 Implementation Grant due based on PCAP

July 1, 2024

 Award notices go out to states with expectation that funds will be awarded October 1, 2024

July 1, 2025

 Comprehensive Climate Action Plan due – second deliverable of Planning Grant.



Implementation Grant

- Roughly \$100 million dollars but details being considered now
- Extremely competitive opportunity
- If successful, transportation share will be roughly 50% of total application
- ANR will serve as fiscal agent but these funds to support transportation measures will also go to VTrans, ACCD, and and other partners





Transportation

CPRG Measure Description	Final funding amount
PEV Incentive Suite - Continue funding for PEV Purchase Incentive, RYR, Mileage Smart, E-Bike, 200A panel upgrades for at-home charging	\$30,000,000
Medium- and Heavy-Duty fleet EV point of sale purchase and EVSE incentive, including infrastructure, technical assistance, and training program	\$10,000,000
EVSE - MUD and other public space Level 2 and DCFC for specific customer classes	\$2,500,000
Idle-reduction technology deployments for all vehicle weight classes	\$1,500,000
EV driver and technician educational programming	\$250,000





Planning Grant – Technical Analysis Funds

- \$ 1 million of the \$3 million set aside for technical analyses needed to support next Climate Action Plan due July 1, 2025
- CAP aligned with major deliverable of the CPR Grant called Comprehensive Climate Action Plan
- \$250,000 held for transportation analysis; with other funding going to update modeling for CAP and other discrete analyses



Climate Action Plan Addendum

- 1. An independent analysis be undertaken by an expert in comprehensive transportation policy, with a core focus on emission reductions and economic modeling to understand and compare the following options of Vermont participating in either:
 - a) The Western Climate Initiative (WCI) capand-invest program with Quebec, California and Washington State, or
 - b) New York's impending cap-and-invest program (NYCI)
- 2. Vermont initiate discussions with New York State to more closely understand current program development and rulemaking processes, including relevant modeling and analysis.

Study Specifics

- Projected emissions reductions in accordance with target year(s)
- Revenue generation, allocation, and ability to invest resulting revenues
- Potential cost per ton/per pollution allowance
- Potential resulting benefits beyond emissions reduction
- Consideration of all fuels and other sectors
- Implementation/administrative questions
- Economic impacts and benefits to Vermonters
- Total administrative resource cost estimates
- Potential timeline for program participation, implementation, and ability to make investments with resulting revenue
- Qualitative discussion of Clean Transportation Standard and a Low Carbon Fuel Standard

Timeline

- ANR will grant funds to VTrans in next 1-2 months
- VTrans to utilize existing retainer contracts to expedite timeline
- Scope of work being drafted by VTrans and ANR now
- Scope will be shared with Treasurer's Office and Cross Sector Mitigation Subcommittee prior to soliciting bids
- Anticipate beginning work in late May with the goal of completing analysis next winter

